

and the points brought out under this heading should be familiar to any physician who assumes to pass judgment upon a subject so important that its decision is vital to the future welfare of any human being.

What the author has written on lacerations of the perineum would be dealt with in detail if space permitted; but the reviewer must take exception to the advice that the urine should be drawn exclusively by catheterization for at least the first week, for we know that infections can be more easily prevented by pitcher douches following urinating than by the many disadvantages of so promiscuous catheterization.

The reviewer was further disappointed by the omission of the continuous silkworm-gut suture as evolved by Dr. Geo. B. Somers of this city, than which there is no better universal operation for the repair of a lacerated perineum. If some high-sounding name from an European center could have devised so simple and practical an operation it would be world-famous.

Likewise, the subject of cystocele is not brought up to date, as the most satisfactory operations for its correction are entirely omitted.

The infections of the genito-urinary tract in women have been entered into with considerable detail and are excellent.

The articles on ovarian embryomata (dermoid cysts and teratoma) are especially to be commended.

But on the whole, the book is a most valuable asset to any medical library—especially to the physician who by force of circumstances is compelled to handle this class of work without the opportunity of giving it special attention. C. J. T.

Treatment of Internal Diseases. For Physicians and Students by Prof. Norbert Ortner of the University of Vienna—Edited with Additions by Nathaniel Bowditch Potter, M. D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine at Columbia University (College of Physicians and Surgeons), New York. Translated by Frederic H. Bartlett, M. D. Second Edition in English revised and reset from the Fifth German edition. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London. Price \$5.00.

This book covers in a detailed and exhaustive manner the modernized treatment of internal diseases. To the internist, and general practitioner as well, it must appeal at once as a reference work of inestimable value, due to the clear and systematic manner in which the text is written. Throughout this work great stress is placed on the pathological physiology of the diseases in question so that a clear conception of the therapeutic measures advised by the author are at once grasped by the reader's mind. Unlike most American books on therapeutics, it does not only mention the names of famous cures but describes and discusses their relative values and the results he had obtained with them personally. The elaborate manner in which drugless methods of treatment are described must be very gratifying to the reader who appreciates the importance of dietetic, therapeutic, mechanical and climatic effects on diseases. When the author recommends a particular climate or altitude he does not merely say a warm or a cold climate, a high or a low altitude, but mentions the ideal places which are to be found both in Europe and America, giving the reader a wide choice of health resorts to choose from.

When drugs are recommended their physiological action is discussed in detail and their toxic qualities carefully considered. Examples of prescriptions showing the best drug combinations are plentiful throughout the text. Many of the new drugs approved by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry are personally recommended by the au-

thor. The treatment of tuberculosis with tuberculin is ably described.

The only regrets the reviewer experiences are that there is no chapter in the book giving the modern treatment of Syphilis and that Radium Therapy was not taken up in the text, as the opinion of such a great clinician as Ortner on these modern methods of treatment would be of the greatest value to the readers of this work.

M. A.

Oral Surgery. A Text-Book on General Surgery and Medicine as Applied to Dentistry. By Stewart Leroy McCurdy, M. D., Professor of Anatomy and Oral Surgery, School of Dentistry, University of Pittsburgh, Pa. Dr. Appleton & Co., New York and London, 1912. \$3.00.

The author in his preface raises the question as to "whether oral surgery belongs to general surgery or to dentistry." Surgery of the mouth, jaws and contiguous parts has come to be known as oral surgery, and forms an important specialty of dentistry. This specialty has really been developed and raised to its present importance by men who were practical dentists, but who had passed through the training of the medical and surgical curriculum.

There can be no question as to whether it belongs to general surgery or dental surgery for it has been developed from dental surgery and occupies an important position in the curriculum of all of our dental colleges; while it is not given place, with but very few exceptions, in the medical curriculum.

The educated dentist is fully qualified to deal with all surgical diseases and injuries of the mouth and jaws, and to much better advantage from every standpoint than is the general surgeon by reason of his more intimate knowledge of the parts involved; the diseases and injuries to which they are subject, and by his higher degree of skill in oral manipulations.

The book in a certain way is a disappointment from the fact that one is led from the title—a pretentious one—to look for a more or less exhaustive treatise upon the subject of which it treats. The work is divided into two parts, General Surgery and Oral Surgery, followed by an Appendix composed of quiz questions upon the text.

Part 1. General Surgery, contains 97 pages, which is altogether too limited a space to give to so great and important a subject as the Principles of Surgery. We would suggest that in a second edition this subject be considerably elaborated for the benefit of dental students if the book is to be adopted by our dental colleges.

Part 2. Oral Surgery, is much more elaborately worked out (335 pages) but could with advantage be considerably elaborated. Brevity is sometimes the soul of wit, but this in other respects much to be desired feature can be carried too far in preparing a text-book. We believe the book would be greatly improved if the above suggestions could be carried out.

The Appendix (24 pages) is devoted to a series of quiz questions, the value of which is doubtful.

The author has written from the standpoint of the general surgeon and not from the vantage ground of the dentist, consequently he occasionally falls into error. Not many dentists will for instance agree with the following: "During extraction of teeth many accidents occur requiring the services of a surgeon. Fractures of the mandible or a considerable portion of the maxilla may occur requiring replacement or wiring. Slipping forceps or excavators may perforate important structures and injure an artery or nerve, resulting in dangerous complications," etc. The extraction of teeth by the average dentist is very rarely, practically never, attended by such accidents, and if such should occur the services of a surgeon would not be required by any dentist worthy of the name. It is only in the hands of quacks and incompetents

that such accidents can be at all common in these operations.

On the whole the book is well written and will prove a valuable help to the dental student who is preparing for examinations and to the busy practitioner who has not time to read a more elaborate text-book upon the subject. J. S. M.

Pyorrhea Alveolaris. By Friedrich Hecker, B. Sc., D. D. S., A. M., M. D. A monograph of 157 pages and 32 illustrations. Published by C. V. Mosby Company. St. Louis, Mo., 1913. Price \$2.00.

Pyorrhea Alveolaris is a subject which is attracting more and more attention not only by the dental specialist but by the general practitioner of medicine as well, by reason of the grave dangers which are present in the disease from local and general sepsis.

We are in full accord with the author in the statement in his preface "that the disease is the result of constitutional and exciting causes which lower the vital resistance of the alveolar process, gum and peridental membrane." Also that this affection is responsible for many diseases in remote organs such as the eye, the ear, the tonsils, the throat, the heart, etc., due to septic infection through the lymph channels and the general circulation.

We stand aghast, however, when in Chapter 1 he enumerates eleven varieties of the disease. There is confusion enough already in the literature upon the etiology and diagnosis of this disease, but this array of special varieties of pyorrhea alveolaris increases the confusion and renders "confusion worse confounded."

The author would have us believe, seemingly, that nearly all inflammatory diseases of the oral cavity which result in the formation of pus are forms of pyorrhea alveolaris, and does not seem to be able to distinguish between this disease and the common varieties of gingivitis and stomatitis, the results of systemic and local conditions.

Pyorrhea alveolaris, so-called, is a disease which attacks the alveolar process, the peridental membrane and the gum, and is a progressive affection due to a lowered vital resistance of these tissues, brought about by constitutional conditions, among the most frequent of which may be named faulty metabolism and faulty elimination.

In the treatment of these many, so-called, varieties of the disease as classified by the author, the prominent and central thought is the employment of autogenous vaccines, which he recommends in all cases in conjunction with constitutional treatment, regulated diet, and the ordinary local treatment of cleansing the mouth, scaling the concretions when present, and antiseptic or astringent mouth washes or both.

Several of the varieties enumerated as pyorrhea alveolaris are simple cases of gingivitis and stomatitis, due to passing constitutional disturbances or local irritants of various kinds, and which are readily amenable to simple treatment, such as clearing the bowels and the removal of local irritants, the cleansing of the mouth and teeth and the application of a 25% solution of iodine in glycerole to the inflamed tissues.

The tendency of so many pyorrhea specialists to magnify every little inflammatory affection of the oral cavity accompanied by pus into a form of pyorrhea alveolaris is a great mistake. True pyorrhea alveolaris is by no means as common a disease as some believe, and the sooner this is realized and corrected the better it will be for the honor and good name of the dental specialist.

The making and employment of autogenous vaccines should not be undertaken by anyone who has not received special and careful training in bacteriology and serum therapy. If vaccines are used they should be employed under the direction and supervision of a specialist in serum therapy. The opsonic index should be taken in every case

to be so treated, and this examination repeated after each dose of the vaccine, as this is the only safe and reliable method of ascertaining the effect of the previous dose and whether the dose needs to be increased or diminished to establish the positive phase in the opsonic index. Clinical symptoms are often misleading and positive harm may be done by relying alone upon these symptoms.

The photomicrographs in the Chapter on Pathology are so poorly executed as to render them practically valueless. J. S. M.

Anatomy Descriptive and Applied. By Henry Gray, F. R. S., Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons; lecturer on Anatomy at St. George's Hospital Medical School, London. New (English) edition, thoroughly revised and re-edited, with the Basle Anatomical Nomenclature in English, by Robert Howden, M. A., M. B., C. M. Imperial octavo, 1407 pages, with 1126 large and elaborate engravings. Cloth, \$6.00 net; leather, \$7.00, net. Lea & Febiger, publishers, Philadelphia and New York, 1913.

The appearance of two new editions of Gray's Anatomy—one American and the other English, gives the student an excellent opportunity to make comparisons. In the new English edition the Basle Anatomical Nomenclature is given first place. It is given in English, and is a welcome advance over the terminology ordinarily accepted, as is still adhered to in the new American Edition, where the Basle Nomenclature is given second place in parentheses.

Prof. Howden has in this new English edition very consistently added at the end of the work a glossary of the Basle Anatomical Nomenclature. The equivalents of the three systems—the BNA in English, in Latin and, the ordinary terminology—are arranged in parallel columns, so that all can be commanded at a glance. This combination makes it very convenient for those who desire to perfect themselves in this subject.

In a recent review of the American Edition (Calif. State Jour. Med., vol. XI, p. 472) the writer made certain criticisms and laudatory comments, on the paucity and character of the illustrations, and general character of the work. The criticisms are equally applicable with slight modification, to the English Edition.

The latter begins with a chapter on Histology, followed by one on general Embryology and terminates with a consideration of Surface Anatomy and Surface Markings. The Applied Anatomy is given at the end of the different subdivisions, while the embryology of special structures is distributed through the text.

Some of the older illustrations are replaced by newer ones. There are 99 figures less than in the American Edition. Illustrations of transverse sections of the extremities are conspicuous for their absence. Figures 489, 528, and 529 very meagerly testify to the invaluableness of accurate illustrations of transverse sections of the extremities. Such figures should have replaced the suppressed illustrations of circles with the names printed on four sides, used in the preceding editions to show the relation of the larger blood vessels to the surrounding structures. Space compensation could have been obtained by curtailing the text. Descriptions cannot be compared to illustrations for building up mental pictures.

In the American Edition there is a marked increase in the number of illustrations of sections of the brain stem; in the English Edition there is not. Schematic diagrams adequately show the course of the nerve tracts and position of the central nuclei.

It is the usual thing to see students,—when at work on the structure of the brain-stem—have as many as six text-books spread out before them. It requires a varying number to give the adequate information for reading serial sections that have